

EIGHT DAYS OF DEVOTION TO GOD OUR FATHER



**Icon of ABBA,
Our Loving Father**

**St. Michael Church
Mahim, Mumbai - 400 016.**

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Recite each day the prayer "God is My Father"

My Father in Heaven, how sweet it is know that You are My Father and that I am your child!

Especially when the skies of my soul are cloudy and my cross weighs more heavily, I feel the need to repeat to You : Father I believe in Your love for me Yes, I believe that You are a Father to me at every moment of my life and that I am your child!

I believe that You love me with an infinite love!

I believe that You are watching over me night and day and that not a hair falls from my head without Your permission!

I believe that in Your infinite wisdom, You know better than I what is good for me.

I believe that in Your infinite power, You can bring good even out of evil.

I believe that in Your infinite goodness, You make everything to the advantage of those who love You; even under the hands of those who strike me, I kiss Your hand which heals!

I believe, but increase in me faith, hope and love!

Teach me always to see Your love as my guide in every event of my life.

Teach me to surrender myself to You like a baby in its mother's arms.

Father, You know everything, You see everything, You know me better than I know myself, You can do everything and You love me!

My Father, since it is Your wish that we should always turn to You, I come with confidence to ask You, together with Jesus and Mary...(here request the favour you desire)

For this intention/and uniting myself to their Most Sacred Hearts, I offer You all -my prayers, my sacrifices and mortifications, all my actions and greater faithfulness to my duties.

Give me the light, the grace and the power of the Holy Spirit! Strengthen me in this Spirit, that I may never lose Him, never

sadden Him and never allow Him to become weaker in me.
My Father, I ask this in the Name of Jesus Your Son! And You
Jesus, open Your Heart and place in it my own and together
with Mary's, offer it to Our Divine Father! Obtain for me the
grace that I need!

Divine Father, call all men to Yourself. Let all the world
proclaim Your fatherly goodness and Your divine mercy!
Be a tender Father to me and protect me wherever I am, like
the apple of Your eye. Make me always a worthy son /
daughter; have mercy on me.

Divine Father, sweet hope of our souls, may You be known,
honoured and loved by all men!

Divine Father, infinite goodness poured out on all peoples,
may You be known, honoured and loved by all men!

Divine Father, beneficent dew of humanity, may You be
known, honoured and loved by all men.

Partial Indulgence

+ GIRARD, Vicar Apostolic of
Cairo / (9 October 1935)
+ JEAN, Cardinal VERDIER
Archbishop of Paris / (8 May 1936)

(Mother EUGENIA)

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DAY ONE

28/7

DAILY THEME-PRAISE

"I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to
my God while I have being." Ps. 146:2

PRAYER

Glory to You, God my Father!

You, Who made the universe and all that is in it.

You, Who have made the brightest star and the darkest
ocean depth.

You, Who made the fiercest storm and the gentlest summer
breeze.

You, Who made the heavenly angels, as well as the beasts,
birds and fishes of the earth.

You, Who made me, created in Your image.
I praise You, God my Father now and forever! Amen
*[Meditate on the wonders God Our Father has created, and praise
Him in your own thoughts and words]*

END OF DAY ONE DEVOTION

DAY TWO

DAILY THEME - THANKSGIVING

"Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits."

Ps. 103:2

PRAYER

Thank You, my dearest Father, for loving me into existence.
Thank You for this body, mind, and soul that You fashioned
specially for me.

Thank You for the people and circumstances of my life.
Thank You for opening my eyes, ears, and heart so that I may
see, hear, and love You.

Thank You for taking me by the hand and leading me back
home through all the dangers and difficulties of my life.

Thank You for loving me. Amen.

*[Meditate on all that God Our Father has given you. Thank Him in
your own words.]*

END OF DAY TWO DEVOTION

DAY THREE

DAILY THEME - OFFERING

"And like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house,
to be holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to
God through Jesus Christ"

1 Pet. 2:5

PRAYER

You have given me everything, Father.

You have given me Yourself!
What can I possibly offer You?
Let me offer you the first fruits, the best fruits, of all I do or receive.
Let all Your children offer themselves as the fruit of Your Tree of Life.
Ripened on the sacrifices, sufferings and crosses of their earthly journeys.
So that the worldwide effects of Your children's "No"-darkness, discord and disorder
May be transformed and made new through Your Light and Love.
I raise my arms in offering to You, Father.
Receive all You have given me into Your Paternal Heart.
Amen.

[Mediate on what you can offer up to God Our Father. Offer back to Him all that He has given you the blessings and the crosses so that all may be transformed in His Love]

END OF DAY THREE DEVOTION

DAY FOUR

DAILY THEME - REPENTANCE

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort."
2 Corinthians 1:3

PRAYER

My Good Father, You are all loving. But You are also just.
How can Your children ever make reparation for all their sins?
How can they ever hope to balance Your scales of Justice especially in these times:
These times when so many of Your children say 'No' to You.
These times when so many of Your children reject Your Will.
These times when so many of Your children no longer believe in You and have enthroned themselves as 'gods'.
These times when so many of Your children embrace the

fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
They have embraced the lie, they have embraced death,
Shower us with Your Grace and Mercy Father.
Cleanse us in your tears.
Allow us to be compassionate warriors of Your Mercy on earth.
So that Your Sword of justice may be transformed into loving means of Your Mercy. Amen.
[Mediate on all the many ways you have hurt or offended God Our Father. Ask for His forgiveness and mercy. Ask for the grace to know, love, serve, and honour Him and to do His Will in all things.]

END OF DAY FOUR DEVOTION

DAY FIVE

DAILY THEME - INHERITANCE

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sons hip. When we cry, Abba! Father! it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him" – Rom 8:14-17

PRAYER

Dearest God My Father,
With awe and wonder, I have learned to praise You and all Your creation. With sincere gratefulness, I have learned to thank you for Your unboundless generosity. With humility and love, I have learned to offer up to You all that You have given me. With a sorrowful but hopeful heart, I have learned to ask for Your forgiveness and tender mercy.
And now that I can fully appreciate that You exist, that You are God, that You created this entire universe, that You created me, I now learn, that in addition to these wonders, You are truly my Father and I am truly Your child.

How can my heart contain the excitement I am not only Your creature, but I am actually Your child.

You created me in Your own image so that I could spend eternity with You. You loved me that much.

But even though You have told me this in Holy Scripture and through the teachings of the Church, my ears have not heard the words, my heart was hardened.

I have wandered far away from Your voice, Your Heart, Your Love for me.

But now the veil is lifted, the fog has cleared. I see, I hear, I understand-You are truly my Father and I am truly Your child!

I am Your prodigal child, running back to You, into Your waiting arms.

I am coming home, to You, my Father, where I belong.

Please hold me tightly to Your Heart and never let me go now and forever. Amen.

[Mediate on what it means to have God as your true Father and for you to be His true child. What does this legacy mean? Think about the tremendous joy and responsibilities that this involves.]

END OF DAY FIVE DEVOTION

DAY SIX

DAILY THEME – FIAT

(SAYING "YES" TO GOD OUR FATHER)

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." Lkl:38

" My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will but as thou wilt." Mt26:39

PRAYER

My Good and Loving Father,

Please allow me the privilege of saying my "Yes" to You! I say "Yes" to You. Father, in all things, Not a conditional "Yes" that involves doing only those things that are comfortable or easy. Not a conditional "Yes" that means doing things that

benefit me. No, I give you my "Yes" in all things. Father, because I know You are pure Love and as pure Love You can transform all things. Doing Your Will can never hurt me. Doing Your Will can never harm another. Doing Your Will can never separate me from You. Doing Your Will can only bring about the rhythm and harmony of Your Will here on earth. Doing Your Will can only help bring me to You. Doing Your Will can only help me bring others to You. When I step inside Your Will, I am dancing with You in the order, rhythm and harmony of Your Divine Will. When I step outside Your Will, I am stumbling alone in the chaos, disorder and discord of darkness.

Let me listen to Your gentle, loving voice beckoning me, inviting me into Your Divine Will. I am yours Lord, do with me what You will. Because I know that Your Will is Love. Even when Your Will may seem painful or unfair. I know that Your ways are not always man's ways. Only You can see the grand scheme of things. Only You know the "why's" of my crosses. But despite what may sometimes appear to be unjust. I trust You totally. Why? because You are my Father... and You love me. You want only what is good for me. You want me to come home to You. There's nothing in heaven or on earth that I want more. So I say "Yes" Father! I say "Yes" to You! I say "Yes" to the rhythm and harmony of Your Divine Will. Amen.

[Mediate on what it means to give your fiat, your "Yes" to God Our Father. How will this change your life? How will this change your relationship with God, with others?]

END OF DAY SIX DEVOTION

DAY SEVEN

DAILY THEME - FIDELITY

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" 2Tim4:7

PRAYER

Dearest Father, my Love and my Life,
I pledge my faith, hope and love,
As a precious gift, a promise, of my unconditional fidelity to
You.
Know that I trust in Your love for me.
Give me the strength, courage, and perseverance to never
doubt, never stray, never despair.
Please bless this vow and make of me a gentle warrior.
Battling the darkness with Your Sweet Sword of Love and
Mercy.
As You will never abandon me,
I pray I will never abandon You.
Please press me tenderly to Your heart, and never let me go.
In You, Father, I trust! Amen.

[Meditate on pledging your fidelity to God Our Father. What does it mean to be loyal and committed to God? Do you feel committed to returning to your Father? Do you want to help others return, too? What does it mean to be a "gentle warrior" of God Our Father's Love and Mercy here on earth? Like St. Paul, when you die, will you feel as though you've fought a good fight?]

END OF DAY SEVEN DEVOTION

DAY EIGHT

DAILY THEME - CONSECRATION

CONSECRATION PRAYER OF THE HOLY OCTAVE OF CONSECRATION TO GOD OUR FATHER

***My Dearest Father, please accept this offering of myself-
my body, mind, and soul:***

I praise You for Your Creation-all Your works and wonders.

I thank You for giving me life and for all that You have done for me.

I offer up to You all that You have so generously given me.
I am sincerely **sorry** for not knowing, loving, serving, and honouring You as I should.

I embrace my **inheritance** as Your child, both the joy and the responsibilities.

I give you my "Yes" so that I may be an instrument of Your Will.

I pledge my fidelity and I ask for the grace of steadfastness and perseverance in my Faith.

Most loving, caring, and merciful of Fathers, in Your Divine Presence, I sincerely proclaim my love for You; I give myself (and my family) to You; and I solemnly **consecrate** myself (and my family) to You-now and forever.

Dearest Father, as Your child, I ask—

That You send Mary to guide me to Jesus, and that Jesus sends me the Holy Spirit so that they may all bring me to You.

That You dwell with me and in me-a living temple prepared by Mary, dedicated by Jesus, and purified by Your Holy Spirit. And may I always be with You and in You.

That You permit me, as Your child, to be your true and intimate friend—one who loves You above all things.

And that You come for me when I die, to bring me home to You.

I further ask You, Father, for the sake of all mankind:

To have mercy on all Your children-past, present, and future.

To bring peace to the world and to gather all Your children to Yourself

And that Your Kingdom comes and Your Will is done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

END OF DAY EIGHT DEVOTION

WHY DO WE HONOUR GOD THE FATHER ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF AUGUST?

(Extracts From The Testimony Of The Right Reverend A. Cailiot.
"Bishop Of Grenoble, Following The Report Prepared During The Canonical Enquiry Into The Case Of Mother Eugenia, from the Book. "FATHER SPEAKS TO HIS CHILDREN")

"The object of the mission which would appear to have been entrusted to Mother Eugenia is precise and from the doctrinal point of view. I see it as legitimate and timely.

Its precise object is to make God the Father known and honoured, mainly by the institution of a special feast, which has been requested of the Church. The enquiry established that a liturgical feast in honour of the Father would be quite in keeping with Catholic practice as a whole. It would accord with the traditional thrust of Catholic prayer, which ascends to the Father, through the Son, in the Spirit, as shown by the prayers of the Mass and the liturgical oblation to the Father during the Holy Sacrifice. However, it is strange that there is no special feast in honour of the Father. The Trinity is honoured as such, the Word and the Holy Spirit are honoured by their mission and external manifestations. Only the Father has no feast of His own which would draw the attention of the Christian people to His Person. This is the reason why a fairly extensive survey of the faithful has shown that, in the various social classes and even among many priests and religious, "the Father is unknown, no one prays to Him, no one thinks of Him" The survey reveals, rather surprisingly, that a large number of Christians remain distant from the Father because they see Him as a terrifying judge. They prefer to turn to Christ's humanity. And how many ask Jesus to protect them from the Father's anger!

A special feast would thus have the effect firstly of re-establishing order in the spirituality of many Christians and, secondly, of leading them back to the Divine Saviour's instruction: "Everything you ask the Father in My name..." and again "You will pray like this: Our Father..."

A liturgical feast dedicated to God the Father would also have the effect of raising our eyes towards the One Whom the apostle St. James called "the Father of light, from Whom every gift comes" It would accustom souls to consider God's goodness and His fatherly providence. They would realize that this providence is, truly that of God the Holy Trinity, and that it is because of His divine nature, common to all three Persons, that God spreads through the world the ineffable treasures of His infinite mercy.

It would seem, at first sight, as if there were no special reason to honour the Father in particular. But was it not the Father Who sent His Son into the world? If it is supremely right to show devotion to the Son and the Holy Spirit because of their external manifestations, would it not be right and proper to give thanks to God the Father, as the Prefaces of the Mass require, for the gift He sent us, His Son?

The real object of this special feast thus becomes plain: to honour the Father, to thank Him, to praise Him for having given us His Son; In a word, as the message states, as the Author of our Redemption; to thank Him Who loved the world so much that He gave His only-begotten Son, so that all men might be brought together in the Mystical Body of Christ and, together with this Son, become His children.

At a time when the world is troubled by secular doctrines, atheism and modern philosophies and no longer recognises God, the true God, would not this feast make known to many the living Father, the Father of mercy and goodness, Whom Jesus has revealed to us? Would it not contribute to an increase in the number of those who worship the Father "in spirit and in truth," to whom Jesus referred? Now, when the world is being torn apart by deadly wars, when it feels, the need to seek a solid principle of union to bring the peoples closer together, this feast would bring a great light. It, would teach men that they will have the same father in heaven: the One Who gave them Jesus, towards Whom He draws them as members of His Mystical Body in the unity of the same Spirit of Love! When so many souls are weary and tired of the tribulations of war, they may

well be hungering for a deep spiritual life. *Might not such a feast call, them, then, "from within", to worship the Father?"*

Further we state below God the Father's message to Sr. Eugenia, to have a feast, in His honour.

"To be known, loved and honoured with a special devotion, I do not ask for anything extraordinary. I desire only this:

1. I desire that one day, or at least a Sunday be dedicated to honouring Me in a special way under the title of Father of all Mankind.

For this feast, I would like a special Mass and Office. It is not difficult to find the texts in the Holy Scriptures.

If you prefer to offer Me this special devotion on a Sunday, I choose the first Sunday of August. If you prefer a weekday, I would like it to be always the seventh day of that same month.

2. I desire that all the clergy should undertake to promote this devotion and, most of all, to make Me known to men as I am and as I will always be for them, that is to say, the most tender and the most lovable of all fathers.
3. I desire them to bring Me into all families, hospitals, laboratories, workshops, barracks, conference halls of the ministers of nations in short wherever My creatures are, even if there were only one of them!

I desire that the tangible sign of My invisible presence be a picture to show that I am present. Thus, all men will carry out all actions under their Father's gaze and I Myself will have before Me the creature that I have not only created but adopted. In this way, My children will be, as it were, under their tender Father's gaze and I would like to be represented in a tangible way!"

NOTE

To learn more about the deep tenderness the Father has for each one of us, read the book "The Father Speaks to his children", the Father's message to Sister Eugenia, order your requirements from the Parish Apostolate of God, Our Eternal Father.

Buy a copy at the earliest.